

REGION 6 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TOPIC: Texas 2010 SO₂ NAAQS Designations

DATE: 5/22/2019

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PURPOSE/ACTION NEEDED: Information

BACKGROUND:

- On June 2, 2010, the EPA established a revised SO₂ primary NAAQS at 75 parts per billion (ppb), which is met at a monitoring site when the 3-year average of the annual 99th percentile of daily maximum 1-hour average concentrations does not exceed 75 ppb
- Area designations for the 2010 primary sulfur dioxide (SO₂) national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) must complete by a court ordered deadline of December 31, 2020 (“Round 4”).
- In Round 4, the EPA will be designating all remaining areas that have not yet been designated for the 2010 SO₂ NAAQS. The designations will be based on available information, including data from new EPA-approved monitors that were installed and began operating by January 2017 pursuant to the Data Requirements Rule (DRR). *See*, 80 FR 51052 (August 21, 2015)
- For the areas that will be designated in Round 4, information regarding an appropriate designation may have changed since air agencies submitted their original designation recommendations in 2011.
- We will be inviting states to submit updated designation recommendations for the EPA to consider in Round 4 of designations, just as we did for the recent Round 3 designations.
- Texas has 11 monitor sites in DRR Round 4. Designations will be based on the three years of monitoring data through December 31, 2019.
- Texas also has 2 sites which are “Round 2” sites which were already designated by EPA as “unclassifiable” and will have three years of monitoring data through December 31, 2019 (Potter County/Amarillo Xcel, and Milam County/Rockdale)
- 3 areas in Texas were designated nonattainment in round 2 (portions of Freestone and Anderson Counties, Rusk and Panola Counties and Titus County). These designations are the subject of litigation and Luminant and TCEQ have requested reconsideration. SO₂ monitors have been deployed at Big Brown (Freestone/Anderson County) and Martin Lake (Rusk/Panola County) in late 2017. Big Brown and Monticello have shutdown, Martin Lake continues to operate.

CURRENT STATUS:

- Currently 2 of these “Round 4” sites will have three year design values above the standard based on certified data for 2017 and 2018 and two additional sites will be above the standard when also considering uncertified 2019 data.
- Monitor near Martin Lake showing exceedances of the standard with 4th high values in 2018 and 2019 (uncertified) above the standard.
- See attached table for additional monitor data

TECHNICAL CONCERNS:

- For any area that the State recommends for nonattainment designation, the state should provide a recommendation on boundaries for the nonattainment area
- Early engagement with sources in these areas is necessary to identify potential emission reductions to address nonattainment

Round 4 and Round 2 Monitor data

Round	AQS #	Site Name	Source	2017 4th High	2018 4th High	2019 Critical Value or 4 th high to date	2020 Critical Value using 2019 4 th High
4	48-029-1080	San Antonio Gardner Rd	Calaveras Plant	29.0	32.0	164	
4	48-203-1079	Hallsville Red Oak Rd	AEP Pirkey Power	32.8	44.5	148	
4	48-227-1072	Big Spring Midway	Big Spring Carbon Black Plant	88.2	99.3	38*	
4	48-233-1073	Borger FM 1559	Sid Richardson & Orion Carbon Black Plants	246.0	213.6	-235	
4	48-245-1071	Port Arthur 7 th Street	Oxbow Calcining LLC	85.9	61.1	78	
4	48-349-1081	Richland Southeast 1220 Rd	Streetman Plant	86.3	140.8	-2	
4	48-361-1083	Orange 1st Street	Echo Carbon Black Plant	80.2	84.0	61*	
4	48-395-1076	Franklin Oak Grove	Oak Grove Steam Electric Station	12.7	13.3	199	
4	48-449-1078	Cookville FM 4855	Welsh Power Plant	33.4	20.2	171	
2	48-161-1084	Fairfield FM 2570 Ward Ranch	Big Brown	-	39.4	5.8**	179.8
2	48-331-1075	Rockdale John D. Harper Rd	Sandow	36.5	3.8	185	
2	48-375-1077	Amarillo Xcel El Rancho	Harrington Generating Station	114.3	132.7	-22	
2	48-401-1082	Tatum CR 2181d Martin Creek Lake	Martin Creek	-	109.1	95.7**	20.2

*4th high through April 2019 51.1 ppb at and 62.3 ppb at Orange 1st Street

** Uncertified 4th high values through 5/21/19



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